

# JANA MOHR LONE

## Curriculum Vitae

Email [jana@plato-philosophy.org](mailto:jana@plato-philosophy.org)

### PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**PLATO (Philosophy Learning and Teaching Organization)**, Executive Director, 1996-present.

Founder and director of nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing philosophy and ethics into young people's lives. PLATO is a leading international organization in the field, and its programs include in-person and online philosophy classes for young people; programs for teachers and schools around the US and internationally; biennial conference and regular workshops and webinars; ethics initiatives; small grants program; and a national graduate fellowship program.

Overall responsibility for the organization's operations and administration, including programs, strategic planning, development and fundraising, finance, governance, personnel, website and social media management, community relations, board relations, and public relations.

Experience leading philosophy classes with students from kindergarten through graduate school.

**Department of Philosophy, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.**

Affiliate Associate Professor (2015-Present) and Affiliate Assistant Professor (1998-2015).

Chair of Department Advisory Board, 2008-2019.

**McDowell Fellow in Philosophy and Social Policy, American University**, November 2017.

Three-day residency, including the McDowell Inaugural Public Lecture on "Philosophical Children," workshops, and other responsibilities.

**Timeless Award, University of Washington**, Seattle, Washington, 2012.

Recipient of Distinguished Alumni award.

**Recipient, Educational Service District *Friend of Children Award***, Wenatchee, Washington, 2007.

**American Philosophical Association Committee on Pre-College Instruction in Philosophy**

Chair (2009-2015) and Member (1997-2000).

***Questions: Philosophy for Young People***

Founding Editor-in-Chief (2000-2005) and Member of Editorial Board (2005-present) of journal.

**Practicing Attorney, Seattle, Washington.** 1986-1991.

**Law Clerk, New Hampshire Supreme Court**, Concord, New Hampshire, 1985-1986.

### PUBLICATIONS

#### Books

*What Would You Do?* Six children's books about ethics. Hachette Children's Group 2024.

*Seen and Not Heard: Why Children's Voices Matter.* Rowman & Littlefield 2021. Winner of a 2022 Choice Outstanding Academic Title Award. Translated into several languages.

*Philosophy in Education: Questioning and Dialogue in Schools* (with Michael D. Burroughs). Rowman & Littlefield 2016. Translated into several languages.

*The Philosophical Child*. Rowman & Littlefield 2012. Translated into multiple languages.

*Philosophy and Education: Introducing Philosophy to Young People* (co-editor, with Roberta Israeloff). Cambridge Scholars Publishing 2012.

## Articles

"Philosophy for Children," *Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy* (co-authored with Amy Reed-Sandoval), forthcoming.

"Conversations About Aesthetics with Children," in *Studies in Art Education*, vol. 65: 4 (2024).

"The Golem: A Jewish Fairy Tale of Language, Identity, and Responsibility," in *The Philosophical Power of Fairy Tales from Around the World: An Ocean of Stories*, editor Wendy Turgeon, Springer 2024.

"Philosophy for Children," in *The Blackwell Companion to Public Philosophy*, editors Lee McIntyre, Nancy McHugh, and Ian Olasov, Wiley-Blackwell 2022.

"Inclusivity and the High School Ethics Bowl," in *The Ethics Bowl Way*, editors Karen Mizell and Roberta Israeloff, Rowman & Littlefield 2022.

"Afterword," in *Gareth B. Matthews: A Philosophical Life with Children*, editors Megan Jane Lavery and Maughn Rollins Gregory, Routledge 2021.

"[Philosophy with Children](#)" *Aeon Magazine*, May 11, 2021.

"[Why are kids asking such big questions during the pandemic?](#)" *The Conversation*, May 1, 2020.

"Thinking about Childhood: Being and Becoming in the World" (with Claire Cassidy), *Analytic Teaching and Philosophical Praxis* vol. 40: 1, 2020.

"Philosophical Thinking in Childhood" in *The Routledge Handbook of the Philosophy of Childhood and Children*, editors Gideon Calder, Jurgen De Wispelaere & Anca Gheaus, Routledge 2019.

"[Philosophical Inquiry in Childhood](#)," *1000-Word Philosophy: An Introductory Anthology*, July 2018.

"Special Issue on High School Philosophy," co-editor, *Teaching Philosophy*, vol. 36:3, June 2013.

"Philosophical Sensitivity," *Metaphilosophy*, vol. 44:1-2, January 2013.

"The Moral Impulse: Talking About Moral Philosophy and Genocide with Middle School Students," In *Philosophy in Schools*. Eds. Sara Goering, Nicholas Shudak & Thomas Wartenberg. Routledge, 2013.

"The Cultivation of Philosophical Sensitivity," in *Philosophy and Education: Introducing Philosophy to Young People*. Eds. Roberta Israeloff and Jana Mohr Lone. Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2012.

"Questions and the Community of Philosophical Inquiry," *Childhood and Philosophy* 7:13, 2011.

"Review Article: Recent Texts in Pre-College Philosophy," vol. 34:1 *Teaching Philosophy*, 2011.

"Silence and Music: Questions about Aesthetics," *Childhood and Philosophy*, vol. 6:11, 2010.

"Why Study Philosophy?" *Imagine* magazine, March issue 2010.

"Does Philosophy for Children Belong in School At All?" *Analytic Teaching*, vol. 21:2, 2001.

"Notes from the Field," Transcript of Fifth Grade Classroom Discussion, *Thinking*, vol. 15:3, 2001.

"Moral Philosophy with Children," *International Journal of Applied Philosophy*, vol. 14:1, 2000.

"Making Mistakes and Thinking for Yourself," *Home Education Magazine*, vol. 17:5, 2000.

"Philosophy and Learning at Home," *Home Education Magazine*, vol. 16:6, 1999.

"Are We All Mystery Creatures? Philosophy with Children At Risk," *Thinking*, vol. 13:3, 1997.

"Voices in the Classroom: Girls and Philosophy for Children," *Thinking*, vol. 13:1, 1997.

"Poetry and the Philosophical Understanding of Children," *Bookbird: World of Children's Books*, 1996.

## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Philosophy**, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1996.

**Title of Dissertation:** *The Ideals of Law: Judging and the Constitution*

**Areas of Academic Specialization:** Philosophy for children, philosophy of childhood, ethics, philosophy of education.

**American Fellow**, American Association of University Women Educational Foundation, 1993-94.

**M.A. Philosophy**, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, 1990.

**J.D.**, George Washington University Law School, Washington, D.C., 1985, *cum laude*.

**B.A. Philosophy Honors Program**, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts, 1982.  
Graduated *magna cum laude* • Certificate in Women's Studies.

## **SELECTED PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS**

“Children’s Philosophical Thinking,” Keynote Speaker, Columbia Play Project Spring Luncheon, Vancouver, Washington, May 2024.

“The Importance of Taking Kids Seriously,” Invited Public Lecture, John Carroll University, Cleveland, Ohio, May 2024.

“Poetry and Philosophical Inquiry,” *2019 Conference of the Philosophy and Teaching Learning Organization (PLATO)*, Orlando, Florida, June 2019.

“Why Philosophy for Children Matters – Both to Philosophy and to Children,” Invited Public Lecture, Colorado College, Colorado Springs, March 2019.

“Questions and Philosophical Inquiry,” Keynote for the *Annual Saigon International School Professional Development Conference*, Vietnam, November 2018.

“Student Engagement, Social Inequalities, and the Importance of Institutional Humility,” Keynote, *International Conference on Philosophy for Children*, University of Southern Denmark, May 2018.

“Philosophical Children,” McDowell Inaugural Public Lecture, American University, November 2017.

“Cultivating Students’ Philosophical Thinking,” Webinar for the *National Humanities Center*, 2017.

“Why Not Ask Why? Fostering Philosophical Questions in the Young,” Invited Public Lecture, Crossroads Cultural Center, New York City, April 2017.

“Philosophical Children,” Keynote for Phi Beta Kappa event, University of Washington, February 2017.

“Children’s Philosophical Encounters: Taking Seriously the Role of Privilege in Classrooms.” *2015 Conferences of the International Council of Philosophical Inquiry With Children (ICPIC) and Philosophy and Teaching Learning Organization (PLATO)*, June 2015.

“Facilitating Philosophical Conversations.” *Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Vancouver, British Columbia, April 2015.

“Teaching *The Book Thief*,” Webinar for the National Humanities Center, March 2015.

“How Philosophy Made Me A Better Parent,” *Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, San Diego, California, April 2014.

“Response to Critics: Book Session on *The Philosophical Child*,” *Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, San Diego, California, April 2014.

“Raising a Philosophical Child,” Invited Public Lecture at Seattle Public Library, April 2014.

"Literature and Essential Philosophical Questions," Webinar for the *National Humanities Center*, 2014.

"Was the Ugly Duckling Ugly? Philosophical Tendencies in Children's Literature." Invited presentation, *Symposium on Children's Literature & Philosophical Wondering*, University of Colorado, January 2014.

"Philosophy and Education: Why Philosophy for Children?" Keynote address at *University of Chicago Midwest Regional Resource Network for Pre-Collegiate Philosophy Conference*, Chicago, Illinois, 2013.

"Critical Thinking: It's Never Too Early." *Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, San Francisco, California, March 2013.

"Raising A Philosophical Child." Public Lecture at Seattle Town Hall. Seattle, January 2013.

"Philosophy and Education: A Gateway to Inquiry." Keynote at *San Diego State University Stephen L. Weber Graduate Conference in Ethics*, San Diego, California, May 2012.

"Thinking and Learning: Does the Concept of a Philosophy High School Entail Particular Principles of Education?" *Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, Seattle, April 2012.

"Philosophical Sensitivity and the Philosophical Self." *Pacific Meeting of the American Philosophical Association*, San Diego April 2011.

## SELECTED MEDIA PRESENTATIONS

["Children Are Natural Philosophers"](#), Podcast with NPR KERA Think, 2021.

["Philosophy for Children"](#), Podcast with *In Limbo*, 2020.

["Philosophy for Children"](#), Podcast, *No Narrow Thing*, 2018.

["Philosophy for Children"](#), Podcast, *Philosophy Breaks Bread*, 2018.

["The Philosophical Child"](#), Podcast with *New Books Network*, 2016.

["Raising a Philosophical Child"](#), Talk at Seattle Town Hall, 2013.

## NONPROFIT BOARDS AND COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

**The Poets Corner**, Camden, Maine. Member of Advisory Board, 2025-Present.

Poetry readings and other events for writers and readers interested in poetry and short prose.

**Bainbridge Island Museum of Art**, Bainbridge Island, Washington. Member of Board of Directors, 2020-2024. Vice-President, Chair of Governance Committee, and Member of Executive Committee.

**Island Volunteer Caregivers**, Bainbridge Island, Washington. Volunteer, 2020-2024.

**Path with Art**, Seattle, Washington. Member of Board of Directors, 2015-2017.

Vice-President and Chair of Governance Committee for organization dedicated to transforming the lives of people recovering from homelessness, addiction, and other trauma through engagement in the arts.

**Providence Hospice of Seattle**, Patient Volunteer, 2013-2018.

Weekly visits to hospice patients.

**Washington Women's Foundation**, Member, 2014-2019. Served on Emerging Issues Grant Committee.

**Public School Funding Alliance**, Winthrop, Washington. 2003-2013.

Founder and board president of organization dedicated to raising funds to support public schools.

**Methow Valley Education Foundation**, Winthrop, Washington. 2006-2008.

Member of Board of Directors of organization providing post-secondary scholarships.

**Business and Professional Women's Cabinet Member, Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle**, 1997-1999.

Member of cabinet dedicated to development on behalf of the Seattle Jewish community.

**Legal Voice**, Seattle, Washington. 1987-1997.

Board President (1990-91), Legal Committee Member (1988-91, 1995-97), Personnel Committee Chair (1991-95), Major Gift Campaign Ambassador, and Legislative Committee Member of women's rights organization.

**Vashon Island Domestic Violence Task Force**, Vashon Island, Washington. Board Member, 1998-1999.

**Vashon Island Connections Mentorship Program**, Vashon Island, Washington. Mentor, 1994-1997.

**Vashon-Maury Island Public Health and Safety Network**, Board Member, Vashon Island, Washington. 1994-1995. Board member of state network developing long-term plan to serve children and families.

**Children's Alliance**, Seattle, Washington. 1992-1994.

Member of Public Policy Committee of organization devoted to statewide advocacy for children.

**Books for Kids**, Seattle, Washington. 1992-1994.

Member of founding Advisory Board of Directors and Chair of Development Committee of literacy organization.

**Seattle Jewish Family Service**, Seattle, Washington. Big Sister, 1987-1994.

**Shelters for Battered Women and Their Children**, Board Member and Volunteer. 1981-1991.

Domestic violence shelters in Massachusetts, Washington DC, New Hampshire, and Washington State.